STATISTICAL REPORT

ON

THANA LABPORE.

BY

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STATISTICAL REPORT

ON

THANA LABPORE.

1. Owing to contiguity in situation, this tract bears a very close resemblance in many respects to the thanas already reported upon. This report therefore describes only what has newly been found worth noticing in it, and does not enter into detail in regard to what has been spoken of in the report on those thanas.

2. This thana is bounded on the north by thanas Mouressur and Burwan; on the east by Burwan and Sakoolipore; on the south by Sakoolipore and Kosba; and on the west by Kosba and Mouressur. Its area is about 109¾ square miles, as ascertained by adding together the areas of the villages comprised in it. It is drained by the rivers More, Kopaie, and Buklessur; the latter two, joining towards the east of the thana, flow by the name of Kooya river. It cannot boast of a single village which may, properly speaking, be said to approach the rank of town. The villages containing the largest number of house-holds in it are Darka, Hirapore, Chahata, and Kooromba. The chief occupation of the people of this tract is agriculture, and they almost entirely depend on the produce of cultivation. The principal crops cultivated are rice, sugarcane, and the rubbee crops, of which the first is grown beyond the needs of home consumption, and is therefore the chief article of export. Cotton and some pulses are also cultivated, but not in sufficient quantities to meet the requirements of the whole tract. For them and other necessaries the people have to look to distant marts. They are imported from Calcutta, Agra, Cawnpore, and Dhulian. The articles of export and import are conveyed by railway; they are loaded and unloaded at Ahmedpore station, which is the only market in the tract, whence the conveyance to the interior is conducted by means of pack-bullocks and carts.

3. The zemindars of this quarter keep no records of the areas of the mouzahs pertaining to their zemindaries: the papers they have only shew the net rental assessed on each ryot, and consequently were of no service in the prosecution of this inquiry. Therefore, in accordance with paragraph 5 of the Board's letter No. 43A, of 21st January 1873, the whole tract was actually measured, mouzah by mouzah, and

the result has been embodied in the following table, which will show the distribution of the area in regard to produce:—

Land under Crop.

	Bgs.	K.	G.	A.	R.	P.
Rice-land	131,965	1	8	43,624	3	11
Sugarcane	2,637	8	5	871	3	19
Rubbee sema	16,022	15	18¼	5,296	3	6
Dehi mulberry	41	2	15	13	2	16
Matal „	1,818	0	18½	601	0	1
Olan *	345	12	16¼	114	1	2
Jedanga * (arahur, &c.) ...	556	16	17¼	184	0	12
Total ...	153,386	18	18¼	50,706	1	27
Orchard land ...	1,021	7	9¼	337	2	23
Total ...	154,408	6	7½	51,044	0	10

Uncultivated Land.

	Bgs.	K.	G.	A.	R.	P.
Culturable waste land, but not under cultivation last three years	921	4	19	304	2	7
Land cultivated within the last three years, but now fallow	1,054	11	9¼	348	2	19
Unculturable land	6,493	7	18¼	2,146	2	12
Grazing land	19,535	18	14½	6,458	0	26
Total ...	28,005	3	1	9,257	3	24

Village Site.

	Bgs.	K.	G.	A.	R.	P.
Bastu	6,305	9	12	2,084	1	33
Udbastu	585	11	19	193	2	14
Total ...	6,891	1	1	2,278	0	7

Land under Water.

	Bgs.	K.	G.	A.	R.	P.
Tanks	18,121	7	5¼	5,990	2	5
Khals and kanders ...	2,201	6	12	727	2	34
Rivers	1,775	14	6	587	0	2
Total ...	22,098	8	3¼	7,305	1	1
Grand Total ...	211,402	19	2¾	69,885	1	2

In the foregoing table only the lands on which amun rice is grown have been classified as rice land; those producing aush and rubbee crops are classed as rubbee sema. The distinctive characteristics of these lands having been given in the report on thana Burwan, are not again noticed here.

* *Vide* pages 16 and 17, paragraphs 30 and 35, of Mr. Geoghegan's report.

4. Classification of land according to the nature of soil :—

(1) Matthyal. | (2) Dorah.
(3) Bali.

These three kinds of soil were found in this tract. Some waste dangas full of kunkur were also met with here and there, but their soil belongs to one or other of these three classes.

Classification of land according to cultivation :—

(1) Sali.	(4) Olan.
(2) „	(5) Dehi mulberry.
(3) Jedanga.	(6) Matal „

These three classes of culturable lands exist in this thana. Their soil falls under one or other of the three descriptions enumerated in the preceding classification, and each of them is here appropriated to the cultivation of the same kinds of crop as in the thanas already reported upon. The first two classes, viz. Sali and Do, are, according to their productive power and advantages of cultivation, again divided, as in those thanas, into three sub-classes, which are given below :—

Sali.	*Do.*
Sali, Awal (1st class).	*Do*, Awal (1st class).
Do., Doem (2nd „).	*Do*, Doem (2nd „).
Do., Siem (3rd „).	*Do*, Siem (3rd „).

5. The following are the crops generally cultivated in this quarter :—

Rice.	Musuri (*Ervum hirsutum*).
Sugarcane.	Khesari (*Lathyrus sativus*).
Beet (*Cicerarietinum*).	Rai, mustard (*Sinapis glauce*).
Matar (peas).	Til, kashta (*Sesaemum orientale*).
Shurshi, mustard (*Sinapes dichatoma*).	Cotton.
Mushna, flax (*Sinum usitatissimum*).	Dehi mulberry.
Job (barley).	Matal „
Gow (wheat).	

6. The mode of growing these crops in this thana is similar to that adopted in the thanas already reported upon; the cost and profit of cultivation are also alike. The large-grained rices are, as in those thanas, cultivated to a greater extent than the smaller grained ones.

7. Indigo and potato are not cultivated in Labpore. Tobacco is planted in some of the villages bordering the Kooya and More rivers, and on homestead lands in small quantities for home use.

8. Formerly cotton was cultivated in this quarter to an extent sufficient to meet the cultivator's wants, but at present its cultivation has almost been given up: it exists in few villages. The area under its cultivation in this thana during the current year, along with other rubbee non-creeping crops, such as mustard, linseed, &c., is about 56 acres. Land is not set apart exclusively for it. The decline of its cultivation may be attributed to the gradual spread of machine-made clothes, which, being now cheap, are used by the people of almost all ranks: very few wear home-made clothing. Only country cotton

is grown here; cultivation of *kher* cotton was not found. The method of cultivation in this thana is the same as that described in the former report.

9. The two kinds of *Ramkapass* (Devil's cotton), viz. *Ramkapass* (wild cotton) and *Ramkapass* (red cotton), were also found in some villages of this thana.

10. The crops named in the following list are especially cultivated in this thana by some people. The lands on which they are grown, the process of their cultivation, and their use, are the same as described in the report on Burwan, Mouressur, and Sakoolipore. Nothing peculiar to be noticed with respect to them, in addition to what has been said in that report, was found.

List of Special Crops.

Kachu (*Arum colocasia*).
Mula, radish (*Rashanus sativus*).
Vadni kalai.
Kurti „
Arahur „
Sheen (*Crotolaria juncia*).
Red potato (*Convulvolus battatus*).
Halood (turmeric).
Ada (ginger).
Shusha (cucumber).
Jhinga (*Luffa acutangula*).
Purul (*Luffa pentandra*).
Lanka, chillies (*Capsicum frutiscius*).
Safflower.
Law (pumpkin).
Kela (plaintain).
Koomra (*Gourd cucurbita pipa*).
Dingle (*Amaranthus gangeticus*).
Shim (kidney bean).
Palang sak (*Beta Bengalensis*).
Pai sak (*Basella alba* and *rubra*).
Begun (brinjal).
Panka sak.
Notor sak.
Piring sak (*Trigonella corniculata*).
Kaunta (*Diocorea pentaphylla*).
Kankoor.
Khero.
Tarmooj.
Oochiya (*Mornordica muricata*).
Karla.

11. Among fibrous and other useful plants, those that grow in thana Burwan are also met with in this quarter; but as a full description of them has been given in the report on that thana, it is scarcely necessary to enumerate them here again. All of them grow here to the same extent, and are used for the same purposes, as in that thana.

12. Betel plantation, called *Boroj*, was noticed only in one village, named Nawaparah. The mode of its cultivation has been described in the report on thanas Burwan, Mouressur, and Sakoolipore. The three sorts of betel which are cultivated in them are also planted here, but do not flourish.

13. The cultivation of almost all the aforesaid crops, especially of the rubbee crops, sugarcane, cotton, and most of the vegetables, require frequent irrigation; but there being no perennial river in the whole tract,* it is carried on mainly from tanks. The rivers and kanders that exist in this thana hold water only in the rainy season, when irrigation is least needed, and begin to get dry towards the first part of winter; consequently crops are liable to failure if there be a cessation of rainfall for a short time. Water is raised here by *sini* and *deeni*, which have been described in the report on thana Burwan.

* The rivers Kopai and More are exceptions to this, but run very low in the dry weather.—EDITOR.

14. Regarding the industries, other than agriculture, which are followed by the people of this quarter, the first and most profitable

is the rearing of silkworms. Formerly the people of the north-eastern half of the thana lived chiefly by it; but the industry has now much declined, owing, it is said, to the successive failures of the outturn from the prevalence of various diseases of the worms.

15. Three varieties of silkworms reared here are the *bara palu*, the *nistiri palu*, and the *chhata palu*. The process of rearing these worms has been fully described in the former report, and the same modes are followed in this quarter.

16. Besides the above-named worms, the generation of a mixed species of worms has recently been noticed, which are called *kheki palu*. They are produced by the union of *nistiri* and *chhata palu*, and are, according to circumstances, divided into two other varieties.

17. The first is produced by worms bred by males of the *nistiri* with females of the *chhata palu;* it more nearly resembles the *nistiri* in its characteristics, and may therefore be named *nistiri-kheki*.

18. The second is produced by worms generated by males of the *chhata palu* and females of the *nistiri*. This also resembles more nearly the male parent, and may accordingly be named *chhata-kheki*.

19. Both varieties are, however, known by the name of *kheki*. The fibre of the silk produced by them is somewhat fine, and as they have been only lately introduced, their cocoons are reeled along with those of other worms. They have not yet been generated largely enough for silk to be manufactured separately from their cocoons, but it is expected that in time, as their numbers gradually increase, silk will be reeled from their cocoons separately.

20. There is no difference in the mode of rearing these worms; it is like that of the *nistiri* and *chhata palu*.

21. In this thana there is one large silk manufactory, at Gonotia, which is managed by a European superintendent. This factory formerly belonged to Government, and was sold to Messrs Watson & Co. in 1244 B.S.* This Company sold it in 1265 B.S.† for Rs. 20,000 to Messrs. Lyal & Co. During the time of this Company its condition has been much improved; they have provided it with steam and two *bomas* (water-raising machines), at a cost of Rs. 18,000 and Rs. 10,000 respectively. But when it belonged to the Government the number of its basins was greater, and the work was carried on more extensively than at present. It now contains 428 basins, all worked by steam, and three *tandurs* (ovens) for heating cocoons, besides 100 basins which are worked in the native method when the steam basins are not sufficient to work the whole quantity of cocoons brought in. An establishment consisting of 21 officers, including the superintendent, is entertained for its management, whose monthly salary amounts to about Rs. 1,250. Under it there are three other factories in this district,—at Kotasur, Sumargunge, and Manipore, but they are not within Labpore thana.

* A. D. 1837.
† A. D. 1858.

22. The cocoons used in this factory are purchased by direct contract both with the silkworm breeders and with *paikans*,* and the silk manufactured in it is exported to Calcutta and London. A statement is given below showing the number of labourers employed,

* Travelling dealers.

the amount of their annual wages, advance for cocoons, and the annual outturn during the last year, *i.e.* 1875:—

Gonotia Factory.

			No.
Number of working basins			428
Number of labourers employed in reeling silk	Men		247
	Women		113
	Boys and girls		73
	Total ...		433
Number of labourers employed in turning wheels	Men		115
	Women		129
	Boys and girls		189
	Total ...		433
		Rs. A. P.	
Amount of annual wages of labourers		*7,835 3 0	
Ditto advanced for cocoons		4,279 8 6	
		Mds. s. c.	
Ditto of outturn in pucca maunds		112 15 10¾	

23. There are also 90 small filatures in this tract, with 129 basins; they are kept, as in the thanas already reported upon, by the well-to-do mulberry planters and silkworm breeders, and are worked in the old native method. The silk manufactured in them is partly consumed locally and partly exported to Calcutta and Moorshedabad and to the markets of the North-Western Provinces.

Looms.

24. The marginally noted kinds of looms are found in this tract. Besides the Tantees, Jugis, Korahs, Kuniyas, &c., who are weavers by caste, looms have been found in the houses of some Boistabs, Bagdis, and Moochies of this quarter.

Silk looms	206
Blanket ditto	10
Cotton thread looms	424
Total ...	640

Blacksmithy.

25. There are 33 blacksmithies in this thana. The profession is followed by Kamars only, whose work chiefly consists in making implements of husbandry.

Brass-smithy.

26. No brass-smithy was found here. The metal utensils used by the people are imported from other parts of this district and from Moorshedabad.

* This sum represents only 2¼ months' wages during which the factory worked in 1875. The year being a bad one, no labour was employed during the remainder. Labourers consist of *katanus* and *pakdors*; the former reel the silk and receive Rs. 5 per mensem, the latter turn the wheels and receive Rs. 3 per mensem.

Goldsmithy.

27. These number 73. The goldsmiths prepare silver and gold ornaments, but their manufactures are not exported. The rate of their wages here is the same as in the thanas already reported upon.

Carpentry.

28. There are 150 carpentries in this thana. Besides the Chhutar, who are carpenters by caste, some persons of Bagdi, Dome, and Bouri castes follow this industry, but they are not very expert. The most skilled carpenter cannot earn more than Rs. 7-8 a month.

Oil Mills.

29. There are 222 of these mills, called *ghani.* Particulars regarding them have been given in the report on Burwan.

Spinning Wheels.

30. As in the thanas already reported upon, this wheel is a portion of the household furniture, to be found in the house of almost every ryot except those of the higher classes; but the practice of spinning twist is being gradually abandoned with that of wearing home-made clothing. At present it is found mostly among the cultivating classes, who make use of the cotton of their own production or of that they buy at markets. There are 6,543 of these wheels in this tract.

Potters' Wheels.

31. These number 109; their description has been given in the former report.

Ghooting Lime.

32. The practice of manufacturing lime from *ghooting*, a kind of gravel, also prevails in this quarter. The process has been described in the report on Burwan, Sakoolipore, and Mouressur. It is also manufactured here from muscles and snails. This lime is used with betel. No lime is exported from this thana.

Trades and Commerce.

33. The only commerce, in the true acceptation of the word, carried on in this tract is in rice. There is only one *ganja* (market), viz. at Ahmedpore, where rice purchasers (*arotdars*) open their shops, buy rice directly from the ryots, who take their rice thither by pack-bullocks and carts, and export it to Calcutta. Since Augrahan last 1,21,538 pucca maunds of rice have been exported from this market.

34. Besides the *arotdars* there is another class of dealers in rice, who purchase it at the doors of the ryots and carry it to markets, where it sells dearer. They have carts and bullocks of their own. Some of these dealers come from the districts of Burdwan and

Nuddea, and are called *bepari*. The construction of several roads during the last relief operations has contributed much to the convenience of these traders.

35. In the course of counting stock an attempt was made to estimate the quantity of paddy in store in the whole tract, and it was found to amount to 3,664 *pantis*.* The same systems and rules for the advance and sale of paddy and rice which obtain in the thanas already reported upon obtain in this.

* 1 *panti* = 3,200 seers.

36. Cotton, tobacco, mustard, flour, clarified butter of buffaloes' milk, cloth, salt, pulses, and spices, are also sold at the market of Ahmedpore, but the traffic in them is not very extensive. They are also supplied to this tract from Kandi, Cynthia, Purundarpore, Katwa, and Krinahar.

37. There are six hâts (weekly markets),—at Moheegram, Gonotia, Darka, Chahata, Valkuti, and Ahmedpore, where only vegetables, small fish, and earthen pots, are sold. No daily bazar was found in the whole tract.

38. There is only one hide godown, situated at Moheegram, where only uncured hides of cattle, goats, and sheep are purchased. Buffalo hides are not found here.

39. Trade in cattle has been introduced in this quarter. Some persons, Mahomedan by caste, of the villages of Mirband and Ulkunda and their neighbourhood, buy bullocks in villages bordering the river More and take them to Pachundi, in the Burdwan district, where there is a large cattle hât. Young calves are kept by some people of this quarter and fed till they are able to draw the plough, when they sell them at their own houses to the aforesaid *paikars* (dealers) or to other ryots, keeping only as many as are required for tilling their own lands.

40. No trade in firewood exists in this quarter. *Ghoshi* (cowdung cakes), *khoa* (refuse of sugarcane), and *shurpate* (leaves of *shur*), are chiefly used for fuel.

Principal Articles of Export.

Rice and silk.

Principal Articles of Import.

41. Tobacco, cotton, machine-made cloth, salt, clarified butter of buffalos' milk, flour, cocoanut-oil, spices, sugar, jute, betelnut potato, paper, mustard, oilcake, pulses, tar, iron, metal utensils, molasses for preparing tobacco, machine-made thread, khair, catechu.*

* Produce of the *Micerasa catechu*, used in this district as a condiment with betel, and in medicine as an external application. —EDITOR.

Fairs (Melas).

42. At Vastore the mela commences on the full moon day of Bysack, on which the Pooja of the Dharmaraj Thakoor of the village takes place; it continues for about two months. Shopkeepers come from different parts of the country to sell various articles, and some 200 persons daily come and go.

At Rakhorressur this mela commences on the day of "Shiboratree," in Falgoon, and lasts for about a fortnight. Several shopkeepers bring their shops. The daily attendance does not exceed 100.

43. There are three other fairs,—at Shetholgram, Chohata, and Mohespore, but they are of short duration and little consequence.

44. No charitable or religious institution exists in the whole tract.

45. Two tolls, two middle class English schools, four aided vernacular schools, one girls' school, thirteen subsidised village pathsalas, one night pathsala, and nine village pathsalas, are found. To the first and last named institutions Government gives no aid.

46. The chief villages of this thana are Ahmedpore, Labpore, Gonotia, Darka, Ramnugger, Kooromba, Thiba, Hirapore, and Chahata.

A list of places of worship is given below:—

Hindu.

Temples of Shiva	Pucca		142
	Kucha		83
Village deities	Pucca		55
	Kucha		150
Deities daily worshipped	Pucca		30
	Kucha		111
Total	Pucca		227
	Kucha		341

47. The worship of these deities is conducted in the same manner as in the thanas already reported upon. There are no almshouses or establishments for public good attached to any of them. The deities daily worshipped include "Salgram," "Shreedar Gopal," "Radhakanto," "Lakshinarain," &c. There is a goddess named "Fullora" in village Labpore, whose worship is conducted by a "Gosain" with the proceeds of "devator" properties:—

Akhra	Pucca		21
	Kucha		24
		Total ...	45

These are established by the "Bauls" "and Boistubs," whose description has been given in the former report. In some only of the "Akhras" of this thana "Mahutshubs" are held annually.

Mahomedan.

Musjid	Pucca		9
	Kucha		23
Astara			125
		Total ...	157

48. The ceremonies celebrated at these places have been described in the report on thanas Burwan, Sakoolipore, and Mouressur.

49. The following tenures and rights in land are found to exist in this quarter:—

Zemindaries and independent taluks.		Zemindari and resumed lakraj.
Intermediate tenures	...	Patni, durpatni, and sepatni talooks; ijara and dor-ijara, ayma, bhati ayma, nankar, madadmash.
Cultivating „	...	Mukurraree jumma, mouroshe jumma, kheraj kharida, bahar kharida, jote jumma, miadi jote, korfa jote, bhag jote, krishanee jote, gatepaka rent.
Rent-free „	...	Confirmed lakraj, brahmator, debotter pirattor, chiraki mahatran, khoshbash.
Government service lands	...	Chowkeedaree chakran lands.
Zemindars' ditto	...	Halshabara's land, shimandar's land, atpaharias land, barber's land.

50. There are chowkeedars in every village, all of whom, with the exception of those of ten mouzahs pertaining to Lat Gonotia, whose chakran lands were resumed by Government in 1856, paid by Government at the rate of Rs. 3 per mensem, have lands called chakran lands. Their number in each village ranges from one to twenty-two, and their holdings have been ascertained from their verbal statements to comprise land from 3 to 46 beeghas. As these holdings have since the time of their creation passed through several hands, they have been reduced very much in some cases, as in the thanas already reported upon, by fraud and collusion on the part of the chowkeedars. Under orders of the Collector, conveyed in his letter No. 735, of 4th December 1875, measurement and demarcation of chakran lands of this thana was taken up on the 15th January 1876 along with the prosecution of this enquiry in it; and up to the date of its completion 382 acres 1 rood and 7 poles of land of 95 holdings in 26 mouzahs were surveyed with compass, the plans and other papers of which have been submitted with report No. 30, dated 29th April 1876.

51. In this thana also, as in those above alluded to, some villages have too many chowkeedars, and their number may be reduced without any prejudice to the public safety.

52. The practice of *katlapara* also existed in this quarter when the chowkeedars were under the control of zemindars.

53. No kind of illegal cess was found to be levied by the zemindars of this thana.

Mines.

54. At present no mine of any kind exists in this quarter.

55. To the east of village Labpore there lies a waste *danga* on either side of the river Laghata, near Sarparajpore, on which here and there heaps of iron slag (*Louhakilta* or *Mandur*) are found, both above and under the ground, and remains of houses and wells are traceable, indicating that at some bygone time a *ganj*, or town, stood there. Heaps of iron slag are also met with in the village of Lodda, which stands on the east bank of the above river, as well as buried on its banks after floods. These circumstances lead to the inference that a *kotshal* (iron factory) existed at this spot, in which iron was long manufactured, and that the village Lodda, which is still in existence,

was first inhabited on that account, as may be presumed from the fact that, owing to the existence of an iron factory, the village may have been named first *Lohardaha*, subsequently contracted into *Lohorda*, and pronounced in the Persian language *Lodda*, during the time of the Mussulmans. No residence of the upper classes, *i.e.* Brahmin, Kaystas, and Baidya, was found in this village. It contains 85 households of the marginally cited castes, and the inhabitants, though not new settlers, live by manual labour. From this it appears probable that its present inhabitants are lineal or collateral descendants of the artisans and labourers formerly employed in the factory.

Kalu	... 4	Bagdi	... 9
Baistab	... 6	Hari	... 9
Sodgope	... 26	Dome	... 1
Chhutar	... 1	Moochi	... 8
Kamar	... 7		—
Moira	... 1		85
Rajput	... 2		=
Koybutta	... 11		

56. This *danga* naturally abounds in *kunkur* and stones of various colors, some of which bear marks of being *bitch pathor* (iron-producing stones), a fact which shews that a quarry of these stones most probably lies under it, and that the factory was worked as long as the stones were abundant, and closed with their gradual exhaustion. There are no means of ascertaining the time of erection, duration, and closing of the factory; only this much is known, that neither iron factory nor town stood on the spot at the time of the decennial settlement, for had it then existed it would have been recorded in the mouzahwary and quinquennial registers as an iron mehal (*lohar mehal*), but no mention of it is found in either.

57. Enquiry was made of the oldest inhabitants, but they could say nothing more than that they have heard from their ancestors that there was a town named Syamlabad with a *kotshal* of iron on the spot.

58. On a survey of the *danga* it evidently appears that formerly a sâl wood stood on it. Some *khair* trees (*Mimosa catechu*) are still met with in one part of it, about two miles to the west of village Labpore. They were not planted by anybody, but have grown from seeds falling from the trees of the old forest, and are used for fuel. The preparation of *khair* (catechu) does not exist in this quarter.

59. The lower parts of the *danga* are culturable, and large portions of them are supposed to have been rendered so by the removal of the iron-stone.

Salt.

60. To the west of Labpore and south of Gogah there lies another *danga*, called Sekampore *danga*, in the lower parts of some of which there are deposits of salt-producing earth. The women of some of the poor people of the surrounding villages scrape this earth and prepare salt therefrom from winter till the rains set in for household consumption. To prepare salt from this earth it is diluted with water, which is then filtered and boiled. A little of this earth and the salt prepared from it were sent with report dated the 25th November 1875.

61. By enquiry it has been found that the *danga* is extensive, but salt-producing earth is obtained at very few places, and the

quantity of salt the earth is capable of yielding is not sufficient to repay the cost of manufacture. Only one-sixteenth part of this earth is salt. The practice of using salt prepared by the above process has long existed among the poor of the neighbourhood.

62. The earth is scraped every morning from the aforesaid places, and is re-impregnated every night on the very same spots by dewfall. Only so much of it is scraped off as becomes damped by the dew, the earth below it yielding no salt. During the rainy season these places are inundated, and the brackish matter being washed away, no salt is obtainable.

Springs.

63. A spring was found to the east of the village Labpore, and close to the north of the Government road running from Ahmedpore to the river Laghatta. It has existed from a long time, and is perennial. A small space round the spring is under water, and is *daldale*, or shaking bog, and dangerous. It has been ascertained from the people of the quarter that the *daldale* round the spring extended over a large area, which has gradually become solid and culturable. On observing the site of the *daldale* it appears to have formerly comprised about 25 beeghas, the greater portion of which has become culturable; the area at present covered by it is about 10 cottahs only.

Ghooting (*Limestone*).

64. Is produced in this thana also, but no particulars regarding it not entered in the former report have been noted.

Wax.

65. Wax prepared from bees' combs is in general use, but is also prepared from matter yielded by a kind of worm. It has not been ascertained that they are called by any other appellation than that of wax-producing worms.

66. These worms grow on small branches of trees. As they gradually increase in bulk, they emit matter from their bodies, with which they construct their cells; these are closely attached to the branch, and have no aperture, but a few marks resembling small holes are perceptible. Like the lacdye worms, they are enclosed in their cells, from which wax is prepared as lacdye from those of the former. The cells are white in colour, and are called *khayamome*, from the fact of their bearing a resemblance to *khai* (parched rice grain).

67. It appears to be the case that these worms, on attaining maturity, lay eggs, expire within their cells, and are thrown down by rain or wind, together with house and offspring. If any remain on the branches, they construct new habitations. If the cells be thrown down on the ground before maturity, the worms fail to reproduce and perish; but if they fall on bushes, reproduction takes place there, and the young make their cells on the spot. Among large trees this worm has been seen on mango and arjune* trees, and on bushes of mayna and bunchi trees underneath them.

* *Terminalia Arjuna.*—EDITOR.

68. First, to ascertain if they possess any power of locomotion, some of these worms were taken alive with their cells, but no such power appeared. Secondly, an attempt was made to ascertain their size and form; but as the worm melted away in the process of separating it from the cell, the attempt failed.

69. It is inferred that these worms are naturally devoid of the power of locomotion. They grow and make their cells on the very spot on which they are produced. In considering the mode of their generation, it appears that when the natural sap of a tree becomes corrupted, it generates them; for they are not found in all the trees of a grove, but only on certain branches of some. Their generation in this way is effected spontaneously. Worms thus generated gradually procreate others, by the general laws of propagation, and the offspring dwells on the same branches with the parents. In consequence of the absence of the power of locomotion they cannot migrate to other trees, but go on propagating their species on the tree on which they are produced. They live upon the sap of trees. On detaching their abodes from trees, the lower part of their body is observable through the side which was in contact with the wood, marks resembling legs are seen all round it, and the presence of blood is perceptible. When the worms are dead the blood-vessel becomes black, but it was not possible to ascertain if any dye could be prepared from it.

70. The young of these worms are found on the same branches with the mature, showing that they are generated at all times, and gradually construct their waxy cells, which become ripe for the preparation of good wax during the three months from Bysack to Ashar. All the wax they are capable of yielding is obtained during that time.

71. To prepare wax from the cells of these worms, put some in a basin, pour a little mustard oil on it, and melt by heat of fire. Then, before the matter gets cool, strain it through a piece of cloth placed over another vessel containing water; the wax will float on the water, and the dead worms and other refuse will remain on the cloth.

72. Some cells of these worms, together with wax prepared therefrom, have been forwarded to the Collector for inspection with report No. 33, of 11th May 1876.

Sent to Economic Museum, Calcutta. —EDITOR.

Description of Caste.

73. This thana is inhabited only by people professing Hinduism and Mahomedanism.

Mussalmans.

Caste.	Number of households
Mussalmans	1,522
Bedia	40
Patua	22
Nikaris	3
Total	1,587

74. Except the Nikaris, full descriptions of these castes have been given in reports already submitted; nothing more has been noticed than what was said of them there. The Nikaris do not drink pachai, like the Bedias. They are uneducated, and deal in fish.

Hindus.

75. Among the Hindus there are people of many castes; those inhabiting this thana have been divided into the following classes:—

First Class.

Caste.	Number of households.
Brahmins	1,023
Kayasthas	134
Bedias	7
Total	1,164

76. Accounts of the people of this class have been given in the report on the thanas already completed. The figures for the Brahmins include the Conoje and Mithili Brahmins, who number 1 and 85, and immigrated formerly from Conoje and Mithila respectively for the purpose of transacting business in this quarter, and settled here like the Bangas Brahmins, but have no social connection with the latter.

Second Class.

Caste.	Number of households.
Agardani	19
Barua Brahmin	44
Chitakar „	2
Vat	9
Daibajanas	17
Sanyasee	21
Total ...	112

77. Except the Chitakar Brahmins and the Sanyasees, all the people of this class have been treated of in the previous reports. Particulars regarding these two castes are given below.

78. *Chitakar Brahmins.*—These are Brahmins degraded for serving as priests to all castes in the performance of funeral rites, which is a profession followed by no other Brahmins. They do not cultivate land with their own hands.

79. They are handsome, industrious, tolerably intelligent, and frugal, but not persevering. Their women are handsome and industrious.

80. *Sanyasee.*—These did not formerly belong to any caste. They are descendants of any Sanyasee (religious mendicant) or his disciples, and their families have gradually increased and formed the caste called Sanyasee. They are *Shaiva*, that is devotees of *Shiva*; their corpses are not burned, but interred, and figures of Shivalinga are placed on their tombs. Those that are in indigent circumstances construct these figures with earth. The office of their priest is performed by the

Brahmins. The males wear *girua-bastra* (cloth coloured red with *giri*, a kind of earth). They generally reside near the temple of a *Shiva*, and become his *sebait*. There is an idol of an *Anadilingashiva*, called *Rakhoressur*, in a village of the same name in this thana, and all zemindars have assigned devattars for his worship. The village has fifteen households of the Sanyasees, who conduct his worship and enjoy all the devattar properties of the *Shiva*. They declare that formerly the site of the village was a dense uninhabited jungle, and that the *Shiva* lay in it under ground; that in time immemorial a Sanyasee named Jajom Gossain Varati had communication in a dream with the *Shiva*, and accordingly dwelt there and founded the idol; and that thenceforward the village has been gradually populated, and is called after the name of the *Shiva Rakhoressur*. The present Sanyasees are descendants of the said Gossain. They are of dark complexion, handsome, cheerful, and hospitable, and their women are handsome and industrious.

Third Class.

Caste.	Number of households.
Chutri	42
Sodgope	3,154
Kamar	66
Kumar	123
Tili	27
Gandhobanik	480
Mali	15
Mayra	216
Tanti	291
Barui	15
Napit	154
Rajput	30
Aguri	26
Goala	134
Kaibatta	93
Boistab	601
Total	5,467

81. Accounts of these people have been given in previous reports.

Fourth Class.

Caste.	Number of households.
Subarnabanik	74
Saruakar	83
Chhutar	174
Kalu	290
Suvri	341
Doba	40
Chasha Dhoba	8
Pura	9
Jugi	67
Cheluti Sunri	28
Total	1,114

82. Particulars regarding the people of the above castes have been given in previous reports. The Cheluti Sunris resemble the Sunris in almost every respect, differing only in not manufacturing liquor. They deal in rice.

Fifth Class.

Caste.	Number of households.
Bagdi	1,171
Hari	379
Dome	337
Kotal	4
Bollo	310
Koura	108
Jola Kaibatta	204
Baitee	7
Byadh	3
Kurmi	5
Bauri	272
Moochi	711
Lohar	44
Kole	7
Dangar	30
Bajikur	26
Total ...	3,618

83. The people of this class have been all described in a former report, with the exception of Bajikurs, an account of whom is given below.

84. *Bajikurs.*—The aforementioned 26 households of this caste were found in village Sithalgram, about four miles to the east of Labpore police-station. They pay no rent for their homestead lands, which have been given to them by the zemindar of the village rent-free.

85. They are strong, intelligent, and cheerful, drink *pachai* liquor, men and women, and live by begging and playing legerdemain tricks. They do not follow any profession, such as agriculture, commerce, &c., and stay in their houses for very short periods twice during the whole year.

86. In the beginning of Agrahyan they all set out to beg, in different directions, on one and the same date, with their wives and children and all their property, putting thorns at the doors of their houses, and return on the morning of 15th Chaitra. They would rather submit to stay with their families in the neighbouring villages than enter their own before the said day, on which they are all bound to come back to their respective homes. Should any one of them return before or after it, he is fined Rs. 7 for breaking the rule, and in default is interdicted by their social law.

87. From the 15th to the last day of Chaitra they celebrate observances (*brata*) in honour of the *Shiva* of the village, and both men and women devote the interval to drinking, dancing, and singing.

88. The idol of the above-mentioned *Shiva* is immersed in water throughout the whole year, being raised from it only when his *jogan** takes place, and again immersed after it is over, by the headman of the Bajikurs, for which the zemindar of the village

* Worship.—EDITOR.

has given them five beeghas of land free of rent. They do not cultivate the land themselves, nor do they appropriate its proceeds to their own use, but expend them entirely in the worship of the *Shiva*, together with the amount of fines and subscriptions collected among themselves.

89. After the *jogan* (worship) of the *Shiva* is finished, they again go away on a certain day in the beginning of Bysack with their families, as in Agrahan, putting thorns at their doors, and return on an appointed day before the Doorga Pooja in Ashin, and worship the idols of Doorga and Syama by subscription at their homes, where they stay this time till the end of Kartik, devoting themselves to pleasure and amusements.

90. Another social rule strictly observed by the people of this caste is that the father and son must not live in commensality after the latter is married, but are both bound to separate, and, in case of its violation, the rule is enforced by imposition of fines.

91. The Bajikurs are not like the Haghras, who are mostly thieves and have no fixed residence. They detest theft, have fixed habitations, and are content with what they earn by begging, which is their caste profession.

92. Parts of the Board's Statistical Return No. 41B, namely Part I E 2 (Fiscal), Part III D I (Agriculture), Part III D 2 (Stock), Part III D 3 (Rates of rent and produce), Part III F 1 (Prices of produce), Part III F 2 (Labour), Part III K (Charitable Institutions), Part IV A (Statistics of Instruction), and Part G (Manufacture), are herewith annexed duly filled up for the tract surveyed.

R. D. HIME,
Collector, Editor.

Part I.

E 2.—Fiscal.

Surveyed and Assessed Area in Acres, Thana Labpore, District Beerbhoom.

District.	Cultivated.			Total.	Uncultivated.			Total area assessed.	Assessments.				Remarks.
	Irrigated												
	By Government works.	By private individuals.	Unirrigated.		Grazing lands.	Culturable.	Uncultivable waste.		Gross amount.	Rate per acre on cultivation.	Rate per acre on culturable land.	Rate per acre on total area of settlement.	
		A. R. P.		A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.						
Thana Labpore, zillah Beerbhoom...	...	51,044 0 10	...	*51,044 0 10	6,458 0 26	†653 0 26	2,146 2 12	.....	...	...	...	...	Village site ... ... 2,278 0 7 Water ... ... 7,305 1 1 9,583 1 8 * Includes *bagan* or orchard land. † Culturable, but not under cultivation during the last three years ... 304 2 7 Cultivated within the last three years and now fallow 348 2 19 653 0 26

F.

Mines and Quarries.

WHERE SITUATED.	Mineral produce.	Number of mines.	Annual produce.	REMARKS.
				There are no mines in thana Labpore; here and there *kunkur* and *ghooting* are found.

G.

MANUFACTURE.

Thana Labpore, Zillah Beerbhoom.

	CLASS OF MANUFACTURE.												REMARKS.
	Silk.	Cotton.	Wool.	Other fibres.	Paper.	Wood.	Iron.	Brass and copper.	Building.	Oil machine.	Earthen pot machine.	Thread machine.	
Number of mills and large manufacture ...	*1	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	* Large silk manufactory, with 428 basins.
Private looms or small works	†296	‡424	§10	...	...	‖150	¶33	.....	...	**222	††109	‡‡6,543	† Small filatures... ... ... 90 Silk looms 206 296
Number of workmen in large works... ... ... Male	362	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	
Female	242	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	
Boys and girls ...	262	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	‡ Cotton thread looms. § Blanket-looms. ‖ Carpentry. ¶ Blacksmiths' forges. ** Oil mills. †† Potters' wheels. ‡‡ Spinning wheels.
	866												
Number of workmen in small works, or independent artisans.	664	424	10	...	...	150	33	.....	...	222	109	6,543	
Number of European Superintendents in large works.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	
Value of blocks in large works	125,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	
Estimated annual outturn of small works ...	§§5	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	§§ There is no certainty of annual outturn of these works, except the silk manufactories, in which silk is manufactured in five *bunds* (seasons of outturn).

Part IV.

Statistics of Instruction.

A.

Ecclesiastical.

Return of Religious Institutions of various denominations in the Province of Beerbhoom.

Profession.	Number of churches or institutions.	Number of ministers or priests.	Number of persons attending worship.	Income.				Explanatory Remarks.
				Paid by Government.	In land.	In money.	From fees and offerings.	
Christians ... Roman Catholic ...								There are no institutions in thana Labpore in which instruction in religious doctrine is imparted.
Christians ... Church of England								
Christians ... Church of Scotland								
Christians ... Protestant Dissenters								
Christians ... Greeks								
Christians ... Armenians								
Christians ... Unitarians								
Hindoo								
Mahomedan ... Soonee								
Mahomedan ... Sheah								
Sheikh								
Buddhist or Jain								
Total ...								

K.

Charitable Institutions.

Charitable Institutions in the Province of Beerbhoom.

Class and object of Institutions.	Number of institutions.	Average number of persons daily aided.	Number of aided in year.	Income.							In what shape relief is given.
				Paid by Government.	In land.	In money.	Subscriptions and donations.	In-door.	Out-door.	General.	
Government Institutions.											
Dispensaries											There are no charitable institutions in thana Labpore.
Poor-houses											
General											
For blind											
„ deaf											
„ lepers											
Supported by general public.											
For cure of sickness ...											
To relieve paupers ...											
For blind											
„ deaf											
Hindu.											
For cure of sickness ...											
To relieve paupers ...											
For Brahmins											
Mahomedan.											
For cure of sickness ...											
To relieve paupers ...											
For lepers											

Blank.

3638

Labour 2.

District.	Wages per diem.		Cart per day.	Camel per day.	Donkeys per score per day.	Boat per day.	Remarks.
	Skilled.	Unskilled.					
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.				
Thana Labpore, zillah Beerbhoom	0 2 0	0 1 0	0 8 0	.....	.....	.....	The practice of conveying articles of export and import by pack-bullocks, and of tilling land by hired ploughs, exists in this quarter; The former are paid at one anna per day if worked till feeding time, and in case they are to go to such a distance as would prevent their return by that time, two extra pice are paid for each bullock as feeding cost. The owner of the bullocks has to accompany them, but receives nothing as wages. One man generally drives some ten or twelve bullocks. Ploughs are each paid at three annas per day, and are worked till 12 o'clock; carts are paid each at eight annas a day if loaded, and at four annas if unloaded.

F 1.

Price of Produce at the end of the year.

Rice (paddy).	Price of produce per maund of 82⅔lb.														Plough-bullocks, each.	Sheep, each.	Fish, per seer.	Vegetables, per kahan, according to kind.	Mulberry leaf per *bigha* of about 1⅓ local maunds.	Remarks.
	Wheat.	Linseed.	Gur.	Beet.	Mustard.	Til.	Musuri.	Khesari.	Peas.	Arhur.	Onions.	Garlic.	Sunn.							
R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.		R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.		R. A. P.	
0 9 0	1 4 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	1 4 0	4 0 0	2 12 0	0 14 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	1 2 0	1 0 0	1 14 0	6 0 0		25 0 0	0 10 0	0 2 9	From Rs. 6 to Rs. 40, according to kind and size; roughly, about Re. 1-8 per maund.	1 0 0	The rates entered are the average rates realized by the cultivator who sells his produce. The following rates prevail at *gunges*:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Paddy ...	0	9	6
Wheat ...	1	5	3
Linseed ...	2	14	9
Gur ...	2	14	9
Beet ...	1	5	3
Mustard ...	4	4	0
Til ...	2	14	9
Musuri ...	0	14	9
Khesari ...	0	12	9
Peas ...	0	12	9
Arhur ...	1	3	0

Rates of Rent and Produce.

District.	Average rent per acre for land suited for					Average produce of land per acre in lbs.							
	Rice.	Wheat.	Inferior grains.	Oil-seeds.	Fibres.	Rice.	Wheat.	Inferior food-grains.	Oil-seeds.	Fibres.	Sugar.	Vegetables, &c.	
Thana Labpore, zillah Beerbhoom	*	*	*	*	*	2,778	418	Chunna ... 623 Musuri ... 623 Muttur ... 623 Khesari ... 354 Arhur ... 440	Mashna ... 308 Mustard ... 220 Til ... 703	Sunn 703	4,924	Onions ... ... 5,266 Garlic ... ... 3,166 Vegetables ... 2,462 Lolita Shak ... 2,814 Mulberry ... 18,467	

Columns marked (*) cannot be filled up, as there are no rates according to crops grown, but according to kind.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Sali Awal	10	15	6
,, Doem	6	13	0
,, Siem	4	14	6
,, Awal	12	13	9
,, Doem	9	13	3
Jedanga	3	6	6
Olan	10	9	6
Dehi Toot	19	10	6
Matal Toot	13	9	9
Bastu	28	11	9
Udbastu	9	8	9

Garden and tanks.—No special rates for these; mostly on Udbastu, Do-doem, and Jedanga. Vegetables are not sold by weight, but an average weight has been assumed for the present calculation.

Stock 2.

District.	Cows and bullocks.	Horses.	Ponies.	Donkeys.	Sheep and goats.	Pigs.	Carts.	Ploughs.	Boats.	Remarks.
Thana Labpore, zillah Beerbhoom.	Cows ... 15,523	4	16	.....	Sheep ... 5,732	397	193	6,487	.....	
	Bullocks ... 15,289*	.....	.....	.....	Goats ... 2,454	.....	.....	.....	.....	
	30,812				8,186					
	Female buffaloes... 22	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Hens 3,278
	Male ditto ... 5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Ducks 539
										Palkis 43

* Includes bulls.

Part III D 1.

1.—*Crops cultivated in Acres, Actual or Approximate.*

District.	Rice.	Wheat.	Other food-grains.	Oil-seeds.	Sugar.	Cotton.	Opium.	Indigo.	Fibres.	Tobacco.	Tea.	Coffee.	Vegetables.	Mulberry.	Shor.
Thana Labpore, zillah Beerbhoom.	*48,866 0 9	.....	Arhur 28 2 28	.....	871 3 19	55 2 8	.....	.....	.....	0 0 18	.....	.....	114 1 2	614 2 17	155 1 6

* Land not appropriated to separate crops. Sali and Do produce rice and cold-weather crops; accordingly all these lands have been entered under rice. Mulberry land is shewn distinctly. In Jedanga there are grown arhur, sunn, &c.; these could not be measured separately, and are therefore entered under arhur.

W. H. D'C.—Regr. No. 991—50—18-4-79.